BENGALURU, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 20 | Humidity 59% Partly Cloudy Sensex 69,653 | Nifty 20,937 | Gold 62,442 | Silver 75,414 | Dollar 83.34 | Euro 89.91 | GBP 104.97

No demand notice served by BBMP to stadium administration for collection of advertisement fee in last 10 years

10 YEARS' NOTICE

Banners, hoardings put up during sporting events

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Is Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) hesitant or not inclined to collect advertisement fee from M Chinnaswamy Stadium? It would seem so going by a reply from the BBMP assistant revenue officer (advertisement – east). The revenue department (east) did not send any demand notice to Chinnaswamy Stadium administration for the payment of advertisement fee in the last 10 years.

In a reply to an application submitted under Right to Information (RTI) Act by S Amaresh of Right To Information Study Centre, the BBMP assistant revenue officer (advertisement – east) stated that no demand notice was served to the management of the Chinnaswamy Stadium in the last 10 years.

"I have received the information from the assistant revenue officer (Shanthinagar) that no demand notice was served to the management of M Chinnaswamy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"We are taking measures to collect advertisement fee arrears from all liable to pay it — Munish Moudgil, special commissioner (revenue), BBMP

SWD WORK

An obstacle race is on here

PAGE 4

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LONG COVID AND ITS HUMAN METABOLIC REPROGRAM/NEURO-COGNITIVE IMPLICATIONS
KEYNOTE
Dr A S Narain Naidu
Director-General, Mission-COVID, Head Of The Global Nutrition Healthcare Council, California, USA

UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH
Dr Vivek Benegal
Professor of Psychiatry, NIMHANS, Bengaluru

TACKLING ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION
Dr Shyam Bhat
Psychiatrist And Chairperson, LiveLoveLaugh

ADDICTION & ITS TREATMENT
Saul Pereira
Psychological Counsellor and Innovative Therapist

WORKPLACE MENTAL WELL-BEING
Anisha Padukone
CEO, LiveLoveLaugh

MOVEMENT & MENTAL HEALTH
Preethi Rajagopalan
Dance Movement Theray Practitioner, Creative Movement Therapy Association of India (CMTAI)

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3 THINGS TO DO

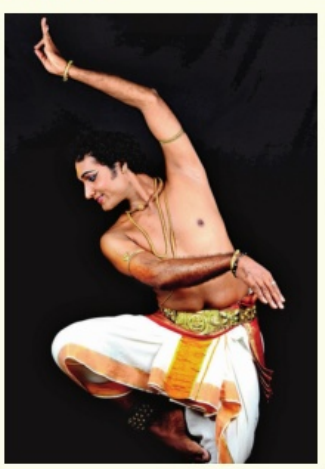
01 Football magic

Don't miss the chance to attend a live, unscripted conversation with football icon Ole Gunnar Solskjaer as he visits India soon. He is expected to enthral Manchester United fans with his exclusive insights, untold stories, and anecdotes. This is your opportunity to share your passion with the legend himself.
Where: ITC Gardenia, Ashok Nagar
When: Friday, December 15; 5 pm to 10 pm

02 Acting hour

Playwright Henry Naylor, acclaimed at the Edinburgh, Hollywood, and Adelaide Fringe Festivals, is currently on his Indian tour. The premiere of Naylor's award-winning autobiographical play, Afghanistan is Not Funny, will be held at one of the most popular venues in Bengaluru. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar**
When: Saturday, December 9; 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm

03 Classic of all



Aatmalaya Academy of Art and Culture Bangalore in collaboration with the ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs, Zonal Office, Dpt of Youth Empowerment Sports, Govt of Karnataka, presents Nivedanam. The event features Gururaju performing compositions from Kuchipudi traditions. There will be other dancers too, performing in their respective artforms. **Where: Yavanika, Nrupatunga Road**
When: December 9; 6 pm

In memoriam

People paid tribute to Dr BR Ambedkar on his 67th death anniversary in front of Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Wednesday

Visual hurdles in focus for autistic children

Several eye disorders have been diagnosed in 83 out of 100 children with autism, says study; experts suggest efforts to ensure every kid receives visual healthcare

Children with autism have been diagnosed with eye disorders, such as refractive errors and eye muscle weakness

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a condition that not only affects the child's behaviour but also has a significant impact on their visual system. It is crucial to understand the connection between autism and visual issues, which will help ensure proper diagnosis and intervention strategies. In a study done by a city hospital, 83 out of 100 children with autism have been diagnosed with several eye disorders, such as refractive errors and eye muscle weakness in the form of convergence and accommodation issues, during the regular eye screening.

Autism can be present with several eye issues that might affect the child's perception and behaviour. One common problem faced by children with autism is a refractive error, where the child may experience difficulty focusing due to the incorrect shape of the eye or lenses. Additionally, eye muscle weakness is another common occurrence, causing difficulties in coordinating eye movements.

Dr Vidhya C, Consultant Paediatric Ophthalmology, Sankara Eye Hospital, Bengaluru, conducted the study and highlighted, "In some cases, parents and caregivers may initially seek help from behavioural therapists, assuming that the issue lies solely within the realm of behaviour. However, it is crucial to recognise that refractive errors, such as nearsightedness or astigmatism, can also cause a child to adopt this visual behaviour. It is important to address any potential visual impairments before assuming they are solely behavioural."

> **"In some cases, parents and caregivers may initially seek help from behavioural therapists** – Dr Vidhya C, Consultant Paediatric Ophthalmology

Dr Vidya added, "Refractive errors can significantly affect an autistic child's visual perception and behaviour. Prescribing appropriate glasses based on a comprehensive eye evaluation can correct these errors, allowing the child to see clearly. Addressing refractive errors can have positive effects on a child's visual experience, potentially reducing sensory overload and improving their overall engagement and communication skills."

Dr N Raghu, ophthalmologist/ Eye eye surgeon at SPARSH Hospital, Bengaluru, also agreed and said, "Children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder may exhibit a heightened vulnerability to developing various eye disorders. Research suggests that there is a noteworthy association between autism and an increased risk of ocular conditions. Autism kids can also have Keratoconus, which can hinder their development activities. Periodic evaluation for any hidden ocular pathology like keratoconus, astigmatism, and retinal problems should be diagnosed and managed at the earliest possible time for better outcomes in managing kids with autism."

As a clinician, it is imperative to emphasise regular and thorough eye examinations for these individuals. Early detection and intervention can significantly impact the management of eye-related issues in children with autism, he explained.

Talking about the measures to be taken, Dr Raghu added, "Collaborative efforts between paediatricians, neurologists, and ophthalmologists are crucial to providing comprehensive care, ensuring that every child, irrespective of their neurodevelopmental status, receives the attention necessary to preserve and optimise their visual health." Eye muscle weakness is also said to be another common problem in autism and can be addressed through vision therapy.

Row over Rs 1,500 leads to murder

Man intervenes to get money owed to his friend, gets stabbed in ensuing quarrel

An altercation that started over Rs 1,500 at a pub in the Singasandra neighbourhood ended in murder.

On Sunday, Gopal and two friends, Shashi and Kare Gowda, were drinking at a pub in Singasandra, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Parappana Agrahara Police Station. Girish arrived at the bar, accompanied by his friend Pradeep. Girish allegedly owed Kare Gowda Rs 1,500 for electrical services done for Girish. Girish reportedly refused to pay Kare Gowda when the latter demanded payment. Gopal is accused of assaulting Girish and forcing him to pay Kare Gowda. Girish allegedly called and harassed Kare Gowda after returning home. When Gopal went to Girish's house to express his displeasure, the latter stabbed him in the chest with a knife. Gopal succumbed to the injuries two days later.

Hacked to death

A 24-year-old auto driver was hacked to death at New Timber Layout in Byatarayanapura Police Station limits, on Tuesday night.

The deceased has been identified as Arun. Unidentified miscreants stabbed him about 20 times using sharp weapons. Arun was allegedly taken into custody in 2021 in an assault case.

He may have been murdered due to an old feud, police sources said. According to sources, Arun's wedding was slated for January. The Byatarayanapura police arrived on the scene and transported the body to the hospital. An investigation is currently underway.

Many stations have missed the train

Though MEMU extended till Chikkaballapur, trains will not stop at several intermediate junctions

Trains won't stop at Bettahalsoor, Doddajala, Channasandra stations

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

> **"Agents assigned to monitor halt stations are poorly paid (allegedly Rs 1,500 per month) by the SWR, leading to many not taking up the job, leaving halt stations unmanned**
>
> –Rajkumar Dugar, C4C

The South Western Railways (SWR) will be extending its MEMU (Mainline Electric Multiple Unit) services till Chikkaballapur from December 11. Earlier, the services were running till Devanahalli, passing through the Kempegowda International Airport halt station. However, there are no stoppages at stations like Bettahalsoor, Doddajala, and Channasandra. Rail activists and frequent commuters have urged the SWR to ensure that the trains are stopped at intermediate stations, to increase patronage and serve a maximum number of people.

Rail activist and founder Citizens for Citizens (C4C), Rajkumar Dugar, noted that the agents assigned to monitor halt stations are poorly paid (allegedly Rs 1,500 per month) by the SWR, leading to many not taking up the job, leaving halt stations unmanned. He further said that agents have massive responsibilities like investing their own money to purchase ticketing systems, maintenance and monitoring among other aspects.

When asked about a large population of commuters buying tickets through online modes, Dugar on X, said "...but if people without tickets board, there will be a problem. Who will issue the tickets to them? TTE can penalise. However, since station infrastructure is available, the onus is on the railways to ensure their property is taken care of, including issuing tickets which will help commuters." He has also noted that the services being provided need to be reliable as well as punctual. C4C has been consistently suggesting that punctuality must be given high priority, as the MEMUs previously ran with less than 10 out of 100 trips being on time (+/- 2 mins).

Trains on the corridor

Three trains will be operated on the corridor, with two originating from Cantonment and the other one from Yeshwantpur with the fare set at Rs 40. The train will be making stops at Avathihalli, Venkatagiri Kote and Nandi on its way to Chikkaballapur. Three trains have also been scheduled to begin from Chikkaballapur. The distance between Majestic and Chikkaballapur measures 73 km km while the distance between Devanahalli to Chikkaballapur is 22 km. To facilitate the services, three trains have been cancelled.

Currently, commuters have to rely on bus services provided by the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) or other private operators to commute from Bengaluru to Chikkaballapur. KSRTC operates over 157 schedules on the route with a fare of Rs 70. The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) had also begun to provide AC bus services on the route before the assembly elections began. BMTC officials claim that the services have been witnessing a gradual increase in ridership.

Citizens chip in to help keep eye out for offenders

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Be prepared for potential visits from Thalghatpura police, as they may soon be issuing notices for both Law and Order (L&O) and traffic violations. This is part of the GARUDA CCTV project initiated by the Residents' Welfare Associations (RWA) within the Thalaghattapura police station limits. Through collective efforts, 100 CCTV cameras have been installed by residents to enhance safety for both residents and commuters.

The project has now reached a stage where it can send feed of violations real time to the police control room both at Thalghatpura station & shortly to a centralised command centre. The circle inspector of Thalaghattapura police limits Jagadish N collaborated with the residents to have the CCTV installed. He revealed to the residents that this initiative had helped in Hebbagodi and Ashok Nagar to reduce the traffic violation cases or even law and order cases.

The members of Changemakers of Kanakpura came forward to have this incorporated and with the collective funds from RWAs have so far installed 100 CCTV cameras. What makes this project interesting is that the citizens have put in their own efforts to set up the command centre. "Right now, we have set up the command centre. However, we are trying to get a large video screen that will have 12 screens to track and trace the location easily from the police station limits itself. The CCTV cameras are high resolution cameras. Just one camera costs around Rs 25,000 but with the installations and other materials the cost goes up considerably," said G Kiran Kumar, joint secretary of the Changemakers of Kanakapura Road Association.

Some of the locations where cameras are installed are A2B junction, Narayan Nagar, Judicial Layout, 100 feet Vajarahalli Road and others. "Currently with the CCTV footage, it is being live monitored at the station. But once we have bigger video screens, the police can get a better view. We had many instances of people using substances in some localities or breaking traffic rules. Now these cameras will help everyone to be vigilant and not break rules."

There are also regular automated announcements from these systems and according to the residents, from the time of its installation illegal activities and traffic violations have come to a halt. The project is set to expand to more locations in the locality.

100 CCTVs have been set up by citizens at Thalaghattapura

> **"Once we have bigger video screens, the police can get better view. There were instances of people using substances or breaking traffic rules**
>
> –G Kiran Kumar, Kanakapura resident

Sudden drain pain leaves citizens hanging on edge

Abrupt start of SWD bridge construction is forcing Kaggadasapura residents to take detours or risk walking on broken path; project likely to end by Jan 5

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Kaggadasapura are irked by the sudden commencement of storm water drain (SWD) bridge construction in the area, forcing motorists to take long detours through narrow roads and pedestrians to cross the construction area through a broken footway.

V Muthanna, a local leader from the Bengaluru Navanirmana Party (BNP), told Bangalore Mirror that the roadway has been fully restricted for the movement of vehicles in both directions. The alternate route provided by Bangalore Traffic Police (BTP) has resulted in motorists having to take a detour of 4 km through narrow lanes around the lake, through Malleshana Palya and Garakamanthana Palya, making congestion unavoidable. "The alternate route is also the same for residents who commute by walking, but they have to use the lake park walkway. The shortest and safest route is still unclear. Since the alternate route is not feasible for pedestrians, they have no choice but to cross the rajakaluve at the construction site while walking over a water pipeline. It is dangerous and crowded," he said.

Pedestrians are making use of the broken footpath and water pipeline to cross over the construction site

Snehal R, Zonal Commissioner visited the site after Muthanna raised a grievance. With the executive engineer by her side, Snehal R, said that a separate footpath will be set up towards the north side of the rajakaluve for pedestrians to cross in the next 10 days. Meanwhile, pedestrians will have to make use of the broken footpath and water pipeline to cross over the construction site. Along with this, the traffic police are going to be arranging necessary signage at the 6th cross junction to help citizens navigate the diversions with ease. After expressing the crowd of pedestrians that accumulates across the construction site, Snehal agreed to deploy one personnel to ensure that the crowd is managed.

"The disregard for pedestrians before the execution is still unacceptable," Muthanna said, noting that he has observed that before the execution of the project, necessary planning and arrangements for alternative routes were not made by the government.

He added that there is insufficient coordination among the various departments involved. The issue of nearby residents not being priorly informed of the project has caused much anger. The project is slated to be completed by January 5.

> **"The alternate route provided by traffic police has resulted in motorists having to take a detour of 4 km** – V Muthanna, Bengaluru Navanirmana Party

Arnab Ghosh, a resident of the area, took to X (formerly Twitter) and said, "How long will it take to complete this activity as per plan? For kids staying in Kaggadasapura and going to KV School by bicycle, it is now taking almost one hour to reach the following GM Palaya route (5 km) in place of the earlier four minutes (1.2 km). Moreover, this road situation is chaotic."

Students breathe life into once-ignored area

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

NOTICE TO SHOW COUSE
[GENERAL FORM]
(Appendix IV Form 4)
Court District and Session Court , Jodhpur District
Case No.22/2020 (Insolvency Petition)
Petitioner: Non- Petitioners:
Rajesh Patel Versus Gautam Patel
To,
Resp. No. 6 Landing Kart Finance Limited, 1st floor 80/2, Green Glen Layout, Outer Ring Road, Bellandur, Varthur Hubli, Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560103.
Resp. No. 10 Om Prakash, J.P. Nagar 4th Block, Bengaluru 560027.
Resp. No. 9 Raja Bhaiya; 11th Cross Shanti Nagar, Bengaluru 560027.
Resp. No. 8 Dhani loans, Blue Diamond Complex, Mahalingeshwara Temple, Bannaji, Pandubetti, Udupi, Bengaluru, Karnataka 576101.
Resp. No. 16 New Mahaveer Enterprises, Prop. Rakesh Kumar, Office at Bajaj Complex, 1st Floor Gandhinagar Bengaluru 560026.
WHEREAS THE ABOVE NAMED PETITIONER has applied to this court.
You are hereby informed that you may appear in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the 07/12/2023 At 10:30 am to show cause why the petition should not be admitted failing where in he said petition will be heard and admitted ex-party.
Given under may hand the seal of this court 18/11/2023.
Under Order
District and Session Court, Jodhpur District
(ADV. RAKESH PATEL)
ADVOCATE

The black spot on PSK Naidu Road near Cox Town was an eyesore and also a health hazard for hundreds of families residing around it. It is not that Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Solid Waste Management did nothing to clear garbage on a regular basis. The pourakarmikas were prompt in removing garbage, but it accumulated on the spot within a few hours.

The place, a black spot a few days ago, became a selfie point for residents and children, especially those environment-conscious people, thanks to students from Christel House India who beautified the black spot in association with the BBMP solid waste management department and a few residents. A few of the students, based on information provided by one of their classmates, visited the spot the previous day for verification and planning. "We are very happy to be part of the cleaning drive. Now, the place has been transformed into a selfie point," said Rakshitha S, a student.

Students beautified the black spot on PSK Naidu Road in association with BBMP

It is said that around nine tipper loads of waste were cleared from the spot. The students have painted the wall after removing garbage. "We decided to paint all religious symbols to prevent people from dumping garbage on the spot. We painted all religious symbols because we did not want to promote or give importance to a particular religion. The BBMP Health Inspector was very happy when we told her that we wanted to join hands with the BBMP to beautify the black spot," said Harshitha N, a student. Stating that cleaning of garbage was part of community programmes at Christel House India, Vishnu Priya, a student, said that discussions were held to select the community work before finalising the black spot on PSK Naidu Road for beautification.

Residents have appreciated the students for spending their valuable time to beautify the black spot. "I am very happy to participate in the cleaning programme. I want to thank students for participating in the cleaning programme," said S Ravi, a resident. Meanwhile, BBMP health inspector (Solid Waste Management) Divya said that she was very happy to get the much-needed help from the students. "I was eagerly waiting for residents to join hands with the BBMP to keep the area clean. The students have removed waste and painted the wall. I have requested the BBMP engineering department to clear debris to avoid people dumping garbage again on the spot. It will be difficult for pourakarmikas to remove waste from debris," she explained.

When contacted, BBMP Junior Engineer Narasiah said around 10 loads of debris were cleared from the spot. "We will clear the remaining debris from the spot," he said.

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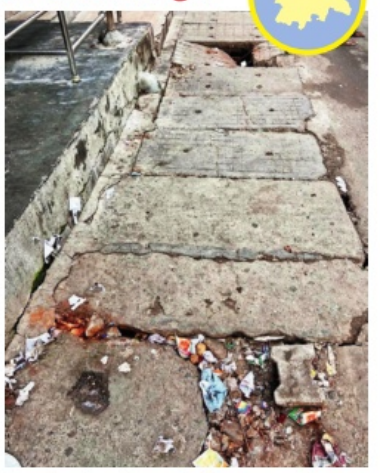
Repair soon
CV Raman Nagar


The footpath on Nagavarapalya Main Road in CV Raman Nagar is in deplorable condition. A plea is made to the authorities to undertake repairs along the stretch.

Risky matter
Kadugodi

A garbage dump in and around Government Junior College in Belthur colony, Kadugodi, poses health risks, including the spread of diseases such as dengue.

Marble dust
K Channasandra

Two marble-selling shops are contributing to environmental hazards by engaging in activities like grinding and cutting marble slabs. This has led to the release of considerable marble dust, encroaching on pedestrians' space along Rampura Road, K Channasandra.

86% rise in crimes against senior citizens from 2020-2022

Crimes against senior citizens in Karnataka increased by 86 per cent from 2020 to 2022, latest data released by the National Crime Records Bureau a few days ago showed.

According to the statistics, the number of such cases increased from 853 in 2020 to 1,583 in 2022. The corresponding figure in 2021 was 1,442. Many of the senior citizens were victims of forgery, cheating and theft, the report said.

An analysis of the NCRB 2022 data shows that among 28 states in India, Karnataka recorded the seventh highest number of crimes against senior citizens. Madhya Pradesh was at the top of the list with 6,187 cases followed by Maharashtra with 5,059 and Tamil Nadu with 2,376.

The rate of such cases in Karnataka stood at 27.3 per lakh population while the rate of chargsheeting in such cases was at 77.8, according to the NCRB data.

Out of the total number of FIRs filed in such cases, the maximum -- 367 -- were registered under simple hurt (under IPC sections of voluntarily causing hurt and voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means), followed by 313 cases related to forgery, cheating and fraud while 175 cases related to theft, the NCRB data showed.

Crimes against senior citizens included 91 cases of murder, 48 of attempt to murder, 18 of grievous hurt, 65 of assault on women

Crimes against senior citizens in Karnataka also included 91 cases of murder, 48 cases of attempt to murder, 18 cases of grievous hurt, 65 cases of assault on women with intent to outrage their modesty, four cases of kidnapping and abduction and two cases of rape.

The state also registered 61 cases of robbery, 58 cases of criminal trespass and 56 cases of criminal intimidation in which senior citizens were the victims in 2022, the NCRB data stated.

Six cases related to crimes against senior citizens were transferred to another state or agency last year.

It was observed that in 147 FIRs, the cases were "true" , but there was either insufficient or untraceable evidence or no clues to close the files. Totally 1,396 cases were disposed of by the police, the data showed.

—PTI

You can use our washroom

In relief for women traffic cops, institutions in South Division agree to provide them with access

Discussion with women cops revealed crucial lacuna

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Female traffic cops who have to stand and manage traffic for hours on the road, can now access nearby educational institutions, software companies, and hospitals if they want to use the washroom.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), South, Shiva Prakash Devaraju said that in a recent meeting with the female traffic police staff, most attendees raised an issue over the lack of accessibility in using restrooms while they are on duty.

Following the complaint, the DCP approached schools and colleges in the south division near the junctions to provide access to the policewomen. "Christ University volunteered saying that they are ready to provide access. So we asked all colleges, schools, hospitals and companies which are near to duty points, if they can provide access. They also happily said yes," he said.

He added that as of now 70 institutions, including hospitals and colleges have come forward to help the police.

Rest too

"One university also offered that policemen can also access a few rooms for resting. These rooms are like small dormitories where people can go and lay down if they are not feeling well and this will be helpful for female officers who are sometimes standing for five hours straight on traffic junctions without taking a break," Devaraju told Bangalore Mirror.

He also took to X to express his appreciation, "We extend our deepest gratitude to each of these institutions for their unwavering support. This remarkable gesture showcases the strength of collaboration between the Bengaluru police and our community."

> **It is so much easier when you can access nearby hospitals or schools to use the washroom** – Woman cop

The South Traffic division is also going to see health drives being conducted specially for female traffic cops in the coming months.

BM talked to some traffic cops to understand how the accessibility to the washroom would help them. "It's a good initiative, especially during menstruation. It is so much easier when you can access nearby hospitals or schools to use the washroom. I hope that all divisions take up initiatives like this," said a traffic warden.

• VAIKUNATA SAMARADHANE •

20.05.1954 — 27.11.2023

SRI. R. AMBIKAPATHY

VICE PRESIDENT,
Karnataka State Contractors Association
PRESIDENT,
BBMP Contractors Association

Passed away peacefully on 27.11.2023

Vaikunta Samaradhane will be held on 07.12.2023, Thursday at 11.300 am at our residence #3/8, 2nd Cross, Ganesha Block, Sulthanpalya, RT Nagar, Bangalore- 32

Join us in praying for the departed soul

You live forever in our Heart

Deeply Mourned by:
Family & Friends

B'luru-Chennai Expressway to be ready only by July 2025

Karnataka Sections of expressway 78.1% complete, to be ready by March 2024

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The much-anticipated Bengaluru-Chennai expressway, originally slated for completion by October 2024, faces extended delays as progress remains sluggish at one stretch of Andhra Pradesh. The comprehensive project is now expected to be completed only by June 2025, currently standing at 51.5% overall.

Karnataka, where construction initiated earlier, is almost 78.1% complete. The 262-kilometre-long Bengaluru-Chennai expressway highway seeks to diminish travel distance between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu capitals by 13%, ultimately reducing travel time to two hours from the existing six to seven hours. The access-controlled stretch will boast a width of 90 metres, accommodating speeds up to 120 kmph and connecting 20.9 million people across areas such as Kolar, Chittoor, Vellore, Kancheepuram, and Chennai.

Providing a comprehensive update on the progress of the project, Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday that the first stretch, from Hoskote to Malur (26.4 km), at a project cost of Rs 2,761.12 crore commenced on September 15, 2021. It is likely to end on March 31, 2024, with the current progress standing at 77.12%. Moving on to the Malur to Bangarpet stretch (27.1 km), with a project cost of Rs 1,496.30 crore, the work began on September 20, 2021. The expected completion is March 31, 2024, and the current progress is at 78.68%.

The third phase, connecting Bangarpet to Bethamangala (17.5 km), was initiated on January 18, 2022, with an estimated cost of Rs 1,047.63 crore. Expected to conclude by January 17, 2024, the current completion is at 78.60%. The fourth phase, covering Bethamangala to Baireddypalli in Andhra Pradesh (25 km, project cost Rs 1,306.96 crore), is projected to finish by October 9, 2024, with the completion standing at 39.83%.

The Bengaluru-Chennai expressway was originally slated for completion by October 2024

> **The first stretch, from Hoskote to Malur (26.4 km), at a project cost of Rs 2,761.12 crore commenced on September 15, 2021. It is likely to end on March 31, 2024**

Among all the phases in the project, the least advancement has been observed in the fifth phase of the project. This particular segment, covering a 31 km stretch between Baireddypalli and Bangarupalyam, with a project cost of Rs 2,171.37 crore, has achieved a progress rate of only 10.05%. It is anticipated that the completion of this phase might be extended until June 7, 2025. The sixth phase, spanning 29 km from Bangarupalyam to Gudipala (project cost Rs 1,288.54 crore), is expected to complete by October 3, 2024, with a current progress of 47.26%.

Proceeding to the seventh phase, covering Gudipala to Walajahpet, where the project enters Tamil Nadu (24 km, project cost Rs 1,028.5 crore), the completion stands at 47.4%, and the expected completion date is August 28, 2024. The following eighth phase, from Walajapet to Arakkonam (24.5 km, project cost Rs 843.5 crore), is projected to complete by July 14, 2024, with a current progress of 51.3%. Moving on to the ninth phase, encompassing 25.5 km between Arakkonam and Kancheepuram (project cost Rs 1,155.5 crore), the expected completion is July 29, 2024, with a current progress of 39.8%. The final phase, covering Kanchipuram to Sriperumbudur (31.7 km, project cost Rs 2948.3 crore), is likely to be completed by July 9, 2024, with a current progress of 45.5%.

The Bengaluru-Chennai expressway is an integral part of the broader Chennai-Delhi expressway network, further connecting to the Bengaluru to Mumbai route via the Greenfield expressway through the Bengaluru Satellite Ring Road project. Valued at Rs 45,000 crore, the project aims to reduce the distance between Bengaluru and Pune by 7%, with a detailed project report currently underway. The target average speed is set at 100 kmph.

Dust pollution

Meanwhile, concerns have arisen as the expressway construction causes severe dust pollution in neighbouring villages. Karnataka PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi acknowledged the complaints, ensuring officials are addressing the issues, and grants have been released.

Exam offence: ₹10 cr fine, 10 years in jail

#BELAGAVI (K'TAKA)

Aimed at curbing rampant irregularities and use of corrupt and unfair means in public examinations in the state, the Karnataka government on Wednesday tabled a bill in the Assembly proposing strict provisions of imprisonment up to 10 years and fine up to Rs 10 crore.

Provisions in the bill, titled Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Corruption and Unfair Means in Recruitment) Bill, 2023, also include confiscation of property.

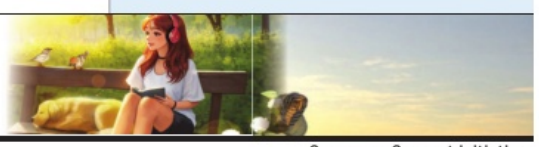
The bill in its statement of objects and reasons states that it has been proposed to provide for effective measures to prevent and curb the offences of leakage of question papers and use of unfair means at public examinations for the purpose of recruitment to any posts under the state government including autonomous bodies, authorities, boards, or corporations. The new law will work as a deterrent against the rise and trend of unfair means in public examinations and also works as a deterrent for the examinees and criminal masterminds who resort to such tactics, it said. **-PTI**

Tunga breaks through

Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) Tunga has made a breakthrough on Wednesday at Kadugondanahalli (K G Halli) Station near Arabic College after completing 1,184.4 m of tunnelling. With this, of the total 20,992 m of tunnelling, 18,832.30 m is over, amounting to 89.70%. Tunga was put to work on the stretch from October 31. Before this, the TBM had finished tunnelling between Venkateshpura Station to Shadhi Mahal Shaft, measuring 1,064 m.

Out of nine TBMs deployed for tunnelling, seven TBMs have completed works. The work undertaken by Tunga is a portion of Pink Line's Phase 2 (Reach 6) work to connect Kalena Agrahara and Nagawara. **BMB**

BM Chill Vibes



Consumer Connect Initiative

Ways to rejuvenate yourself as holiday season approaches

We're just weeks away before we ring in the new and while some of us may be busy with the preparation, many of us are stressing about the pressure of festivities. Overwhelmed and left with little to no clue as to what to do, we need to take a leisurely break. Take this weekend as a chance to pause, breathe and rejuvenate yourself inside out and show yourself some much-needed love with these self-care practices.

Catch on some sleep

For starters, it's very important to catch on all that sleep that you've compromised on throughout the week. Sleeping is the best way to relax your mind and body and take a break from your busy and hectic day. After all, it's not a mandate in people's lives since forever for no reason. You'll only be able to go ahead and indulge in other activities if your mind and body is fresh and not lethargic.

At-home spa

There's nothing more rejuvenating than indulging in a relaxing and calming spa sesh that soothes your mind and restores balance in your body. Create a spa-like atmosphere in your home with aromatic candles, bath salts, essential oils and body massage oils and give your body and

mind the love that it deserves.

Declutter wardrobe

Your closet is home to a lot and that includes a lot of unnecessary items too. Think clothes you don't use anymore or makeup and shoes. Alternatively, everything in your closet could've gone haywire, resulting in a completely messy situation. If you struggle to find that shirt or pair of denim in your wardrobe, it's time to declutter.

Take a small trip

If holidays and home don't fit together for you, take these days as a chance to explore a nearby hill station or simply treat yourself to a luxurious staycation. Either way, you'll get a change of environment and come home fresher and happier.

DIY Skin & Hair Care

It's time to put your DIY skills to the test and endow your skin and hair with some handcrafted natural goodness. Take whatever you find in your kitchen from aloe vera, coffee, turmeric to yoghurt and create skin and hair-friendly masks to boost the health of your skin and hair. You can find a lot of DIY recipes here too.

Social Media Detox

We can't stress enough over this honestly. Social media has consumed our life and has also become addictive for many of us. You need to give social media a break to restore positivity, mental balance and peace since social media can easily take a toll on all of this. **-Femina**

'1 instance, not sufficient to implicate person for cruelty'

In absence of material evidence, Apex Court quashes case against 4

Only allegation in the charge sheet found to have been substantiated was that one appellant had thrown some belongings of the woman onto the ground

The Supreme Court has said a single instance, "unless portentous", may not be sufficient to implicate someone in a case of subjecting to cruelty a married woman in the absence of material evidence of interference and involvement in the marital life of the complainant.

The apex court quashed the criminal proceedings against four people, including the sister and cousins of a man accused of committing alleged offences under sections 498A and 506 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

While section 498A of the IPC deals with the offence of husband or his relatives subjecting a woman to cruelty, section 506 pertains to punishment for criminal intimidation.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti, which perused the charge sheet filed in the case, noted the assertions made against the appellants were "very vague and general".

"One instance unless portentous, in the absence of any material evidence of interference and involvement in the marital life of the complainant, may not be sufficient to implicate the person as having committed cruelty under section 498A of the IPC," the bench said in its November 30 order.

It observed the appellants were not residing in the marital home and one of them was not even living in India.

The top court passed the order on a plea challenging the March 2019 order of the Karnataka High Court which had refused to quash the charge sheet against the four. It said in the absence of specific details that constitute cruelty, "we would accept the present appeal".

It noted the complainant got married in June 2015 and she made a complaint pursuant to which an FIR was registered in Karnataka in November 2016.

The bench, which perused the complaint, noted the woman had alleged that in February 2016 one of the appellants had allegedly commented on her physical appearance and later thrown her personal belongings into the dustbin.

The only allegation in the charge sheet that was found to have been substantiated was that one of the appellants had thrown some of the personal belongings of the woman onto the ground as they were not kept at the proper place.

The bench said regarding the other three appellants, the charge sheet alleged that they were present in the 'panchayat' which was called to resolve the differences between the parties.

The top court noted it was informed that a decree of divorce was passed in November last year and the woman has filed an appeal against it. While quashing the criminal proceedings against the four appellants, the bench said, "However, we clarify that if any material comes on record during the recording of evidence, it will be open to the trial court to take recourse to section 319 of the code (Code of Criminal Procedure) and proceed following the law".

Section 319 of the CrPC deals with power to proceed against other persons appearing to be guilty of an offence. The bench also clarified that it has not made any comments or observations on the allegations by the woman and the charge sheet against the other three accused.

—PTI

File photo of players of Mumbai Indians posing with the Trophy after winning the WPL in Mumbai

WPL 2024: Bengaluru, Mumbai likely venues

Final decision may come on Dec 9 but it is highly likely this year WPL will follow multi-city format

The second edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) is likely to follow a multi-city format similar to the IPL and the matches may be played across Mumbai and Bengaluru.

All the matches of the inaugural WPL was played between March 4 and 26 earlier this year at the DY Patil Stadium and the Brabourne Stadium.

"The final decision (about venues) might come on December 9 (the day of the WPL auction) but it is highly likely that this year it (WPL) will follow the multi-city format with Mumbai and Bengaluru being the front-runners at this moment," a BCCI official told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

"The WPL was received well by the fans in the opening year, and it is the right time to take it to different cities. Bengaluru always has a good audience for women's cricket, and it has now grown because of the RCB women's team."

Mumbai and Karnataka cricket association officials too expressed readiness to host the matches, if indeed they come their way.

Royal Challengers Bangalore women's team captain Smriti Mandhana too had backed the multi-city format for the WPL.

"It would be great to have WPL in multi-city format. That might be the next step and I am sure people right here would look into it and make it happen. As an RCB fan, I would love to play in Chinnaswamy where people are chanting 'RCB, RCB' and just to be in that environment," Mandhana had said during the recent RCB Innovation Lab's Leaders Meet India.

"That is something which is one step ahead for us that it (multi-city format) can reach to places where women's cricket hasn't reached and to get a new audience going into women's cricket," Mandhana added. —PTI

IN BRIEF

BJP in power for 4 years, failed to close potholes in B'luru: CM

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Wednesday that the BJP which was in power for four years could not close the potholes in the roads of Bengaluru. He was speaking to the media at Belagavi Airport on Wednesday.

Reacting to the BJP's accusations that work was not done under 'Brand Bengaluru', the CM said, "It has only been six months since we came to power. Did the BJP create 'Brand Bangalore'?"

"The High Court had reprimanded the BJP Government for not filling the potholes. What moral right do they have to talk about Bengaluru," he asked.

Replying to a statement that when sessions are being held in North Karnataka the ministers are all staying in Telangana, the CM said, "Not all the ministers are there. One or two have gone as there is need to do work also. Only Zameer Ahmed and DK Shivakumar should come back."

Responding to former CM HD Kumaraswamy's statement that Siddaramaiah has no development speech, only appeasement speech, the CM replied that he had said that "all communities including Muslims will be protected."

—IANS

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10 years' ad fee pending from stadium

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Stadium in the last 10 years," the assistant revenue officer stated in reply to the RTI application.

The apathy and negligence of BBMP revenue officers invited criticism from social activists. They demand the BBMP authorities take measures to collect the advertisement fee, and arrears, from the management of the stadium.

"M Chinnaswamy Stadium is known for organising different formats of cricket matches. It is a known fact that many banners and hoardings are put up during the cricket matches at the stadium. I think it is the responsibility of the management to pay the advertisement fee to the BBMP. The management is paying taxes to different departments. Why did it fail to pay the advertisement fee on its own?" asked Amaresh.

Demanding the BBMP authorities collect the advertisement fee from the stadium management, Veeresh BH, a RTI activist, said the management has to take permission from the BBMP authorities in advance for putting up banners and hoardings during cricket matches.

"I am of the opinion that the BBMP revenue authorities have to take measures to collect the advertisement fee from M Chinnaswamy Stadium," said Veeresh.

Meanwhile, BBMP special commissioner (revenue) Munish Moudgil said all those who advertise in the city have to pay the advertisement tax. "I am aware that many people did not pay the advertisement fee. We are taking measures to collect the advertisement fee arrears from all who are liable to pay it. Collecting advertisement fees is not a difficult task but needs some time," said Moudgil.

However, additional general manager of Chinnaswamy Stadium, when contacted, directed BM to contact the chief financial officer.

The CFO in turn directed this correspondent to contact the chief executive officer. The CEO assured to revert within 30 minutes but did not honour his assurance.

Withdrawal of sanction to prosecute DKS: Yatnal goes to HC yet again

The High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday adjourned the hearing of a petition by BJP leader and MLA Basangouda Patil Yatnal challenging the State Cabinet decision to withdraw the sanction accorded to the CBI to prosecute deputy Chief Minister and Congress leader DK Shivakumar.

The bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna said it would first decide on the maintainability of the petition before going into its merits.

Yatnal had earlier filed an intervening application in the appeal filed by Shivakumar challenging the sanction.

Shivakumar had withdrawn the appeal on November 29 following the withdrawal of sanction by the Government. Yatnal then filed a petition which was mentioned before the single judge bench on Wednesday. The Court questioned the maintainability of such a petition by a person who is not party to the case.

Challenging the November 28 order of the Government withdrawing consent, the petition states that the "Impugned order is highly illegal and not even worth the paper on which it is printed because such executive order is directly in conflict with law of the land as declared by Apex Court."

Based on the Income Tax Department raids and Enforcement Directorate's probe, the CBI sought sanction from the State Government to file an FIR against Shivakumar which was granted by the then BJP government on September 25, 2019.

The sanction was withdrawn by the Congress government, which came to power in May this year, on November 28, 2023. **PTI**

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I, Arunkumar Chotu Deenadhayalan S/o Deenadhayalan Raja R/o #60 DNS layout, Sacred Heart Road, T.C.Palya, K.R.Puram Bangalore North, Karnataka 560036 have changed my name to Arun kumar C D for all purposes.

I, KUBHENDRAPPA B.H, Residing at No 168, 9th Cross, Chamundeshwari Layout, Bettadasanapura Main Road, Bengaluru -560100. Have changed My name to KAILOSH BAJZER vide affidavit dated 06/12/2023 before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Sudeep D S R/o Doddajala Village And Post, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore North-562157 have changed my minor daughter's name from Lishana S to Lisha S.

I, Mamatha Sharma W/o Late Veerendra Sharma, R/at No. 42/89, Chennamma Apartment, Ullal main road, Mallathahalli, Bangalore-560056 here by declare that MAMATHA SHARMA and MAMATHA T.K both the names belongs to me only, affidavit dated 06.12.2023 before notary Devaraja E, Blr.

I, Santosh Kairamkonda S/o Anjaiha Ramayya Kairamkonda R/o T2A 1101, Candeur Carlisle, ITPL Main Road, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru-560048 have changed my name from Santosh Kairamkonda to Santosh Anjaiha Kairamkonda vide affidavit no.539 dated 06-Dec-2023 before Notary.

I, NIKHIL M PAREKH, Residing at Flat No 206, Raj Opal, 24th Main Road, Next to Royal School, J P Nagar 6th Phase, Bangalore - 560078. Have changed My name to NIKKHHIL P PAREKH vide affidavit dated 06/12/2023 before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Rita Arul Doss, R/o: 555, HBR Layout, 4th Block, Kalyana Nagar, Bengaluru- 560043. I have changed my name to Rita. Vide affidavit dated- 06.12.23. Sworn before notary B Seshagiri, Bengaluru.

I, Mohana Teja Sree Datla R/o Plot.5, 84/2, 6th cross, Green Garden main road, Horamavu, Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Mohana Tejasri Datla affidavit Dt.06/12/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Shreekanta Limbanna Jadhav, S/o Limbanna Jadhav, Shri Durga Nilaya Ragapur Road, Near Govt. High school Saraswathinagar Bagalkot Karnataka - 587203 Have changed my name to Shreekant Jadhav for all future purposes.

I Mary Bartholomea W/o Milton John Patrick, R/o 57, 12th Cross 1st Block, Akshay Nagar, Ramamurthynagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560016 Have Changed My Name to Mary Barthlomia.

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SHADOW EFFECT

Rats are more human than you think – and they certainly like being around us

Rats have a somewhat unfortunate tendency to enjoy living where people live. That's how a biologist tried to explain people's hatred for the rodents in a television news feature about rats gnawing electrical cables in parked cars in the southern Swedish town of Malmö.

The brown rat, Rattus norvegicus, is one of the species best adapted to modern society. These rats have followed humans around the world to become one of the most abundant mammals, spreading from their native distribution in northern China and Mongolia and reaching Europe in the 1500s, possibly even earlier. Black rats, however, arrived in Europe as early as the 1st century AD.

Today almost all wild brown rats are synanthropic, meaning they live in close association with humans, eating our leftovers and using human structures for shelter. The relationship between rats and humans is one of commensalism, a word derived from the Latin term "commensal", meaning "eating at the same table".

Throughout the centuries, rats have been cast as humanity's dark shadow. Rats have had an enormous impact on human civilisation, not least through the spread of diseases. They have long been associated with dirt, death and destruction. In medieval Europe people loathed rats for their so-called brutishness, seemingly limitless sexual appetite and fecundity. But their huge numbers and adaptability mirrors humans' evolutionary success.

They have spread with wars and European imperialism to colonised territories in the Americas as well as Africa and Australia. Rats thrive in the trenches of modern warfare even today.

A social and empathetic animal

Real rats are far from the despicable creatures they often are made out to be. Several studies have shown that rats have powerful empathy.

These animals can share the emotional state of others, which in psychology is called emotional contagion. Research has shown that when a rat sees another rat in distress, the neural structures activated in that rat's brain closely resembles those activated in humans brains when feeling empathy for pain of others.

> "Real rats are far from the despicable creatures they often are made out to be. Several studies have shown that rats have powerful empathy

One experiment showed that rats will release a fellow rat from an unpleasant cage even if they are not rewarded for it. And if given chocolate treats afterwards, the free rat would usually save at least one treat for the former captive.

This selfless behaviour comes from rats' socially complex lives in family groups of multiple generations. They form lifelong bonds with other rats and share socially learned skills, such as foraging techniques, across generations. This means rats have a form of culture.

A study from 2023 even showed that rats can imagine places and things that aren't in front of them at the time. In experiments rats were shown to navigate a space in their thoughts, that they have previously explored. As in the studies of empathy, researchers demonstrated this by comparing the regions in the rat's brains that were activated to those that are activated when humans think about navigating their way through places they have visited.

This ability to imagine also suggests that rats have a sense of past and future.

Living and dying with rats

With this in mind, human ways of dealing with rats seem cruel. The most common chemical method for rat control is anticoagulants, which cause fatal internal bleeding one to two weeks after a rat eats the poison. Since rats are both socially intelligent and cautious, they prefer to sample unfamiliar food and then wait to see if it makes them or other rats sick.

It's called poison shyness. With anticoagulants however, the time between consumption of the bait and the rat dying is so long that they don't usually associate it with their feeding habits.

The human motivation for learning about rats has often been the desire to kill them. The foremost experts in wild rat behaviour are their exterminators. And yet, current methods for controlling wild rat populations are not very effective.

Some rats have developed resistance to the poisons and are able to eat it and survive. Trapping them is notoriously difficult, and they often recolonise the territory from which they have been removed.

Global urbanisation is probably only going to bring humans into closer contact with rats, and killing rats the way it is done today isn't ethical.

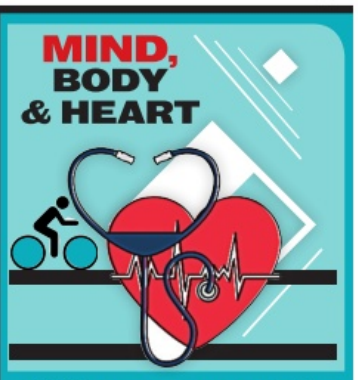
Instead, we should consider other strategies, like the ones explored by the Urban Rat Project at the University of Helsinki. Here researchers from different disciplines are trying to get a deeper understanding of conflicts between rats and humans. They are studying both species and their interactions, in hope of a future with less bloody human-rat relations. The project has spotted that places in urban areas where people feed birds tend to attract rats as well – which people then try to eradicate using poison or traps.

Research has also suggested that with increased knowledge about rats and their behaviour people tend to develop a more positive attitude towards them. So more knowledge of wild rats' social behaviour is needed. And humans need to manage their own behaviour to avoid conflict with rats.

A good place to start would be reducing food waste and stop leaving leftovers out unsecured. Less rats around human food sources, for example, and more knowledge about their behaviour would mean a lower risk of diseases spreading from rats to humans, as well as from humans to rats.

Humanity's future is with the rat, a social and empathetic animal. So it's time we understood our shadows.

(By Tobias Linne, Lund University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Removing ear wax

Risk of hearing loss
Medical experts have warned against using cotton swabs, ear picks, pens, or fingers to remove ear wax since this could lead to hearing loss.

Natural protector
President of the Association of Otolaryngologists, Lucknow chapter, Dr Rakesh Srivastava said that the human ear has a self-cleaning mechanism and no routine maintenance was required.
"Earwax, or cerumen, serves as a natural protector for eardrums and inner ear against dust and dirt. Improper cleaning pushes wax deeper into the ear canal, resulting in heightened pressure, reduced hearing, and painful ear and infections. Five-six such cases come to light every month," he added.

Don't put oil in ear
Another otolaryngologist, Dr Sumit Sharma, urged the people to refrain from putting mustard oil in children's ear. This is a common practice in North India.
"Putting oil in the ear canal does nothing good. On the contrary it might flare up infection, if any," he added.

No effect on vaccination
"But this work shows that being overweight creates an impaired antibody response to SARS-CoV-2 infection but not to vaccination," Tong said.

Excessive wax
Regarding excessive wax, he said: "Only some people have this problem because of the design of their ear canal. These individuals, if necessary, may contact doctors who use suction techniques and a syringe filled with warm water and saline or diluted hydrogen peroxide to remove wax."

Useful component
Wax protects the ear from infection. It also protects the eardrum from dirt. There should be some wax in the ear for its wellbeing.

—IANS

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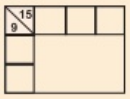
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

In drawing a random integer in the inclusive interval 11 to 99, what is the probability the product of the 2 digits will be even & over 25?

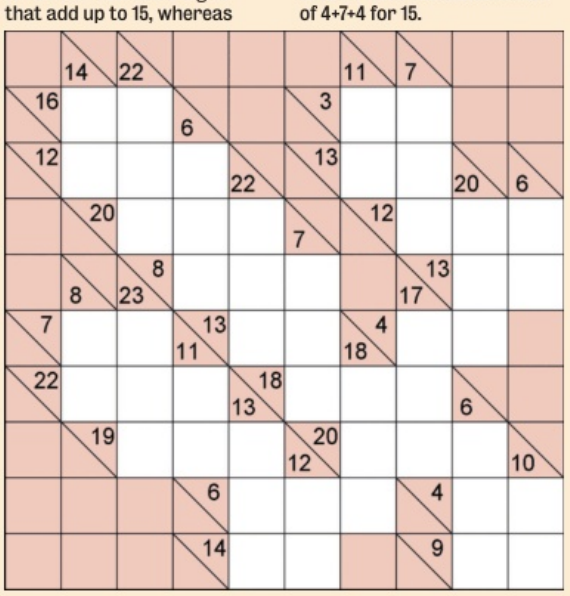
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

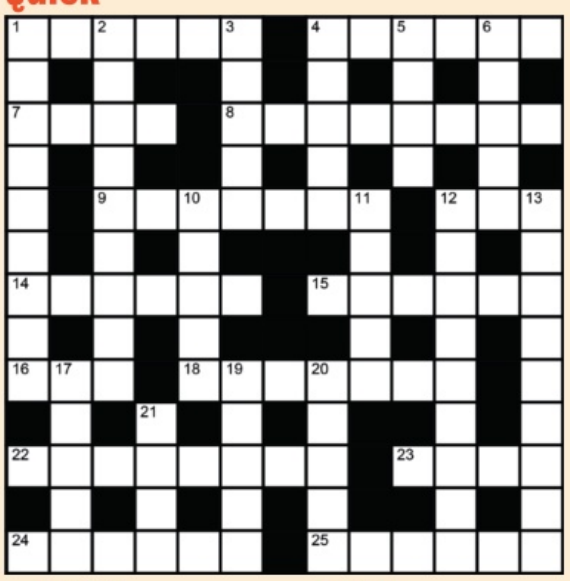


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Powerful explosive – "Ma a lot" anagram? (6)
4 Decide to leave or withdraw? (3,3)
7 Mandatory last name for a Sikh lady (4)
8 Pudding made from cake rolls (4-4)
9 Intrusions (7)
12 Aliens? (3)
14 Practical jokes (6)
15 Revised copies (6)
16 I think therefore _ __? (1,2)
18 Yield (7)
22 Situated or coming from within (8)
23 Distinctive air (4)
24 Sparkles or glimmers (6)
25 Distinctive dress (6)

DOWN

1 River that crosses paths with the South Pennar river at Nandi Hills (9)
2 Silver metal (9)
3 Slow musical tempo (5)
4 Leered at (5)
5 Class or genre (4)
6 Without illumination (5)
10 Libertines (5)
11 Hindu ascetic (5)
12 First half of Julius Ceasar's last words? (2,2,5)
13 Inactive, resting (9)
17 A record of a single year? (5)
19 Divisions (5)
20 Reef material (5)
21 Actor Connery (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS U

BA'Z N ZBPW DC KVRBDGXBAM OUVW MDT RVKDWZAXNAV PXNABATRV OBAU KDRVX-NABDW.

Linemaro

Your smile could illuminate the depths of the ocean

Mindchow

If you understand, things are just as they are; if you don't, things are just as they are

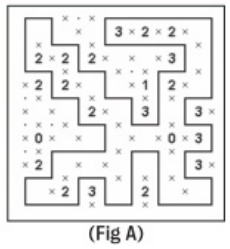
Joke of the day

I'm afraid that fulfilling my potential would really cut into my sitting around time

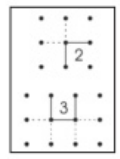
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

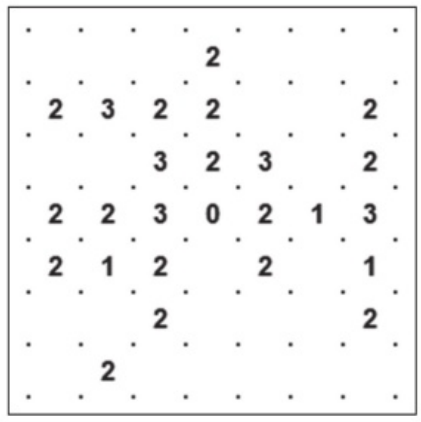


(Fig B) Not Allowed

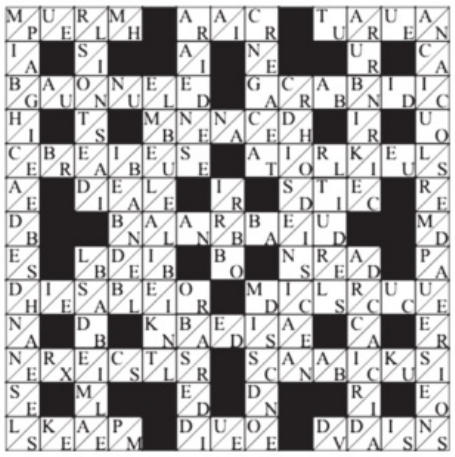
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2 H	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

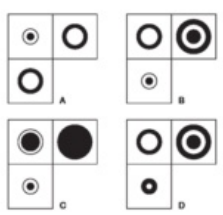
1 Shape; 6 Repel;
7 Primo; 8 Rim ID;
9 Cones

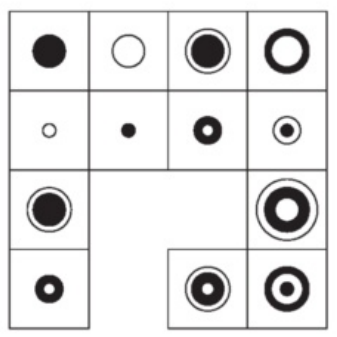
DOWN

1 Limps; 2 Chime;
3 Or pap; 4 Siren;
5 Do ere

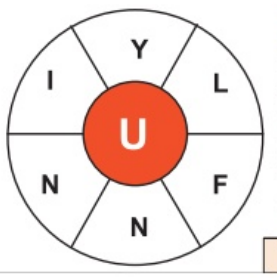
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing section?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

4								7
		1	5		4	2		
	7		3		1		8	
6	1						3	2
			4		3			
5	4						6	9
	3		8		2		4	
		9	7		6	1		
2								8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 12
3 4 5 6

Medium = 10
2 4 6 9

Hard = 3
6 7 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

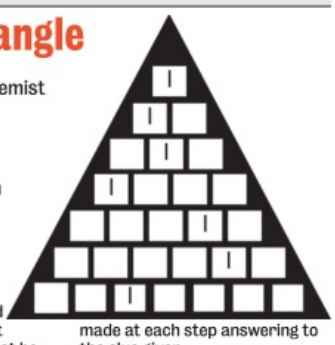
Differences: 1. Man is taller. 2. Desk is moved. 3. Cabinet is smaller. 4. Cap is smaller. 5. Paper is added. 6. Mouth is open.

Riddler

Which three letter word completes the following longer words: gl—se, s—le, —act, shr—?

Alpha triangle

1 Third vowel
2 Iridium for the chemist
3 Make public
4 Persia today
5 Shape up
6 Try hard
7 Ex-India paceman



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

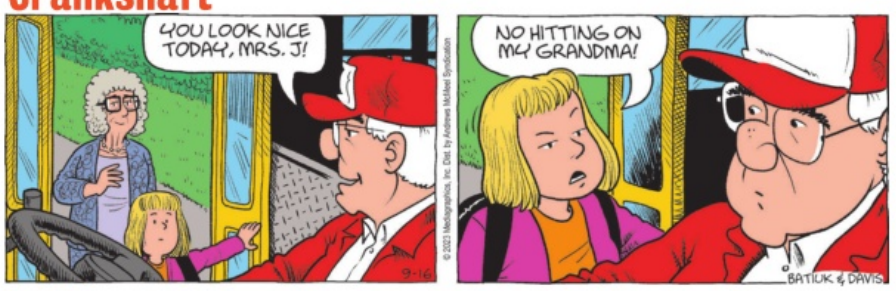
Diamond Lil

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY...
THE WAY TO A MAN'S HEART IS THROUGH HIS STOMACH
WHO ARE "THEY"?
THE WORST SURGEONS IN THE WORLD
©2023 creators.com 9/19
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

YA KNOW, MY BARBER RUNS AN INDEPENDENT RADIO STATION. MAYBE YOU CAN TALK ABOUT THE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT THERE!
PERFECT! I HAVE BEEN TOLD I HAVE A FACE FOR RADIO.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S AS COMPLIMENTARY AS YOU THINK IT IS.

Crankshaft



Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are affected by a negative moon. You may feel unhappy. You may become impatient today, and you may find it difficult to perform your task and not be able to fulfil your desire. You want to be detached from the given responsibility. You may not be able to complete any tasks.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Work-related pressure may go away. Your earnings may be converted into profits now. You are likely to invest for a long time. You may get an overseas work order, which may give you financial benefits in the future. You may find your soul mate. Students may hear good news about their academics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are blessed by a positive moon; you may perform well in your professional front. You may implement your business plans very easily with the help of your colleagues. Intellectual investments and financial investments may start yielding profits now, which may increase confidence levels. You may use your wisdom to gain benefits.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Your spiritual power may make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are inclined towards spiritualism today. You may plan to visit a religious place. You may also take an interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views to yourself and try to discuss them with those who may understand your feelings.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel nervous, you may lack patience, and you may be attracted by the occult. It is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also gain in-depth knowledge on a subject, or you may have a good focus on your research. Chanting a mantra may help you in this situation.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by a positive moon and Jupiter, which may help you improve your inner strength. You are likely to get some new opportunities for your business and work, which will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Lovebirds are advised to be clear in their opinions with each other to make their future bright.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Things are now under control. Your performance may be praised by your seniors, and you may expect promotions. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now, which may help increase liquidity in the business. There may be some good news in terms of legal matters, too. In partnerships, many issues are likely to be resolved now.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may hear good news in terms of a job. Job seekers may be focused on cracking entrance exams with the help of hard work. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage. Couples may have some good news in terms of childbirth.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may plan for a change in place; it is advised to postpone the decision related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investing in business. A dull feeling may make you upset. By late evening, the situation may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of the elders, you may control the messy situation.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may have good patience; meditation may help you increase concentration, which will speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, which may help you complete the project on time. There may be some short trips related to work. You are likely to meet an influential person who may help you boost your business.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may spend money to buy some creative or artistic artefacts to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You may implement some new plans in your family business, and it will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family or social get-togethers.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Today, this is your challenge to avoid straightforwardness. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics; otherwise, there may be some disputes in the family. Job seekers may find a suitable job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.

KIDZONE

Janani N Tharkesh, 8 Years, Cluny Convent High School

Aarush H, 6 Years, DPS, Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3 47 48 49
2 56 58
5 65 66 67 68 69
3 74 76 78
6 84 85 86 87 88 89
3 94 96 98
22 Total
p=22/89
= 25%

RIDDLER
gl-IMP-se, s-IMP-le, IMP-act, shr-IMP

BULL'S EYE
FUNNILY, funny, unify

FAST FIVE

S	C	O	N	E
M	I	R	I	D
I	M	P	R	O
L	E	P	E	R
P	H	A	S	E

STRIKE OUT

P	E	R	M	A	I	R		U	R	E	A			
I		I		E		U		C						
G	U	N	N	E	D		A	R	A	B	I	C		
H		S		B	E	A	C	H		R		U		
E	R	E	B	U	S		T	O	R	I	E	S		
A		D	A	L		I		D	I	C		E		
	D		B	L	A	B	B	E	D			D		
N		B		N	A	D	I	A		A		R		
D	E	A	L	E	R		M	I	S	C	U	E		
E		L	E	I		O		S	E	A		P		
	T	R	I	C	K	S		E	D	I	T	E	D	
A		N		A		T		E						
	I	N	R	O	A	D	S		E	T	S			
K	A	U	R		R	O	L	Y	P	O	L	Y		
	M		G		E		E		I					
R		L		A		G		Y		N				
G	L	I	N	T	S		L	I	V	E	R			

QUICK

O	P	T	O	U	T									
		T		R										
I	N	T	E	R	I	O	R		A	U	R	A		
		N		S			O			R		T		
I	A	M		S	U	C	C	U	M	B		N		
H		U		E			H			U		E		
T	R	I	C	K	S		E	D	I	T	E	D		
A		N		A		T		E						
V		I	N	R	O	A	D	S		E	T	S		
A	M	A	U	R		R	O	L	Y	P	O	L	Y	
	M		G		E		E		I					
R		L		A		G		Y		N				
A	M	A	T	O	L									

MENSA PUZZLE
It's a sign of mediocrity when you demonstrate gratitude with moderation.

QUOTE UNCODE
B: looking across and down add another circle, alternating black/white, to alternate squares

SUDOKU

2	6	4	1	3	5	9	7	8
1	3	7	8	9	2	6	4	5
8	5	9	7	4	6	1	2	3
6	1	8	9	5	7	4	3	2
5	4	3	2	1	8	7	6	9
7	9	2	4	6	3	8	5	1
9	7	6	3	2	1	5	8	4
3	8	1	5	7	4	2	9	6
4	2	5	6	8	9	3	1	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
I, Ir, Air, Iran, Train, Strain, Shrinath.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 6 + 5 − 3 = 12
Medium
6 − 4 / 2 + 9 = 10
Hard
9 + 7 − 6 − 7 = 3

KAKURO

Volume No 16, Issue No 118 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru – 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Key to successful bond

Parineeti Chopra revealed the secret to her successful marriage with Raghav Chadha. She humorously said as both are from different professions, it works

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Sunny shuts down rumours

Actor Sunny Deol, whose film 'Gadar 2' emerged as a blockbuster, has clarified that the recent viral video, which showed him walking drunk on streets, is actually a sequence from his film under production.

Recently, a video showing Sunny

roaming drunk on the streets went viral on social media. It also shows a rickshaw driver giving a lift to Sunny as he requests the actor to board his vehicle for his safety.

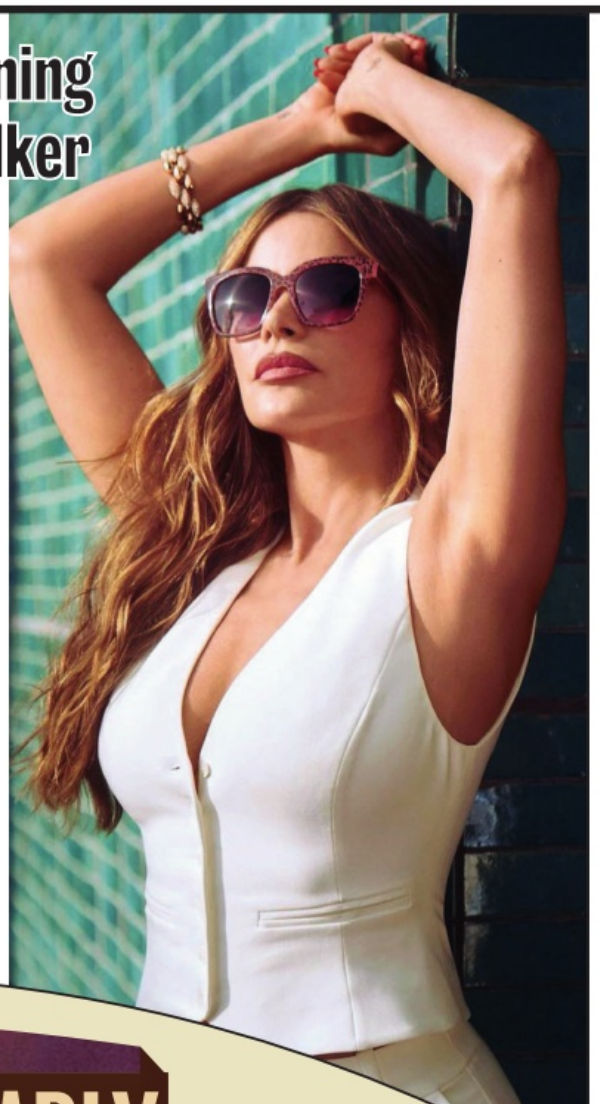
Now, reacting to the video, Sunny took to his X, formerly Twitter and shared the full version of the video which shows the actor being traced by the camera team as the shot rolls.

He wrote, "Afwaahon ka 'Safar' bas yahin tak (the journey of rumours end here) #Shooting #BTS".

The producer of the film also said in a statement that the video is from the shoot.

—IANS

Sofia gets restraining order against stalker



Actress Sofia Vergara has been granted a temporary restraining order against an alleged stalker.

The 51-year-old 'Modern Family' actress went to court to gain an order of protection for herself and her 32-year-old son Manolo Gonzalez Vergara to keep Gregory Brown away from them both after the TV star accused him of "aggressive and harassing conduct", reports Female First UK.

In legal documents obtained by TMZ.com, Sofia called Brown a "mentally unstable stalker" with "a delusional belief he personally knows her and has a relationship with her and her family." She added that his "aggressive and harassing conduct" has caused her anxiety and emotional distress and made her fear for her safety.

In her filing, the actress claimed Brown made several attempts to contact her and her son including gaining unauthorised access to the gated community where she lives back in July. As per Female First UK, Sofia also claimed to have received a letter from Brown in which he vowed to be "seeing and hearing her very soon" and was signed from "Gangsta"..

—ETimes

FASHIONABLY INDIAN

Sonam Kapoor reveals why she likes going local at global red-carpet events

Actress Sonam Kapoor's influence on the Indian fashion landscape and pop culture is undisputed. Sonam was one of the first to start the trend of red carpet couture and she was also the first to wear Indian designers at major global events. She recently revealed her reason to go local at such events which has led to India having major fashion moments globally!

She said, "For me, I remember it was my first Cannes appearance. I was working with an international brand and they were taking me to Cannes. I knowMasaba since we were kids, we were in kathak class together. But my sister Rhea and I discussed and we were like 'we should wear an Indian designer on a global platform' and we wanted to wear a designer who was young and someone who represented the modern and young India."

She added, "I remember, I wore her (Masaba) saree and at that time, I draped the saree myself. We had one make-up artist that was being shared by all young girls representing the global brand that I was endorsing. I remember going there and suddenly there was this one photographer who came and took a picture of me and the next thing I know is that I am on the cover of a leading fashion magazine in America!"

Sonam added, "I cannot tell you how excited Masaba was! But what was exciting for me was the fact that I was 23 years old, that an Indian designer featured in a global magazine, and I felt proud of it as an Indian! After that time, Rhea and I decided that every time there is an international platform, we will always champion an Indian designer, and we have done that." On the work front, Sonam has Battle for Bittora and other project.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Nani meets Shivanna

Nani aka Natural Star Nani was busy on Tuesday promoting his forthcoming pan-Indian movie Hi Nanna that is scheduled for release on December 7. Nani visited Dr Shivarajkumar's home to seek his blessings. He had breakfast with Dr Shivarajkumar at Manyata Tech Park. Minister for Primary and Secondary Education Madhu Bangarappa was also present on the occasion. "I am grateful to the people of Karnataka who supported me by watching my previous movie Dasara. I appeal to all of you to extend similar support to my forthcoming movie Hi Nanna," said Naani.

Mrunal Thakur is paired opposite Nani while Baby Kiara Khanna plays a key role in the movie. Shruthi Haasan makes a special appearance. Jayaram and Angad Bedi are the other cast in the movie. Mohan Reddy Cherukuri and Vijayendra Reddy Theegala bankrolled the movie.

Techies' life

Director Lokesh B is busy finalising locations for his fourth Kannada movie Vikramarka. Its muhurat function was held at Gayathri Temple in the city recently. Lokesh has handled the megaphone for movies Teddy Bear, Sudoku, and Vidhura and these movies are yet to be released.

"As of now I am on a tour to select suitable locations for Vikramarka. We are thinking of some spots in and around Tumakuru for the shooting. The regular shooting of the movie is expected to commence from next week. Post-production work of my previous movies are in progress. Arrangements are being made to release one of the three movies shortly," said director Lokesh.

The director said the film is about the working conditions of software engineers who come from rural areas. "The female protagonist is a software engineer from a village. How the hero, known for perseverance, happens to meet the heroine and how he helps her out is what the film is about," the director said.

Umesh Kumar, a businessman from Mumbai, is bankrolling the movie. Bhargav will play the lead while Akshara plays the female lead.